

Coins

Dimes' dates tell a tale of market value

By Roger Boye

SOME QUESTIONS and answers from the numismatic mailbox:

● Q.—Before they disappeared from circulation three or four years ago, I saved a large number of dimes with the face of winged Liberty. Now I'm curious about how much my coins are worth and whether I have any "rare" dates.—A. B., Chicago

A.—The "winged Liberty head" or "Mercury" dime was minted from 1916 to 1945. The wings crowning Liberty's cap are intended to symbolize liberty of thought.

Chances are most, if not all, of your coins are the common dates of the later 1930s and the early 1940s. Dealers sell common date Mercury dimes in very good or fine condition for 45 cents and up.

The less common Mercury dimes are those with mint marks and dated prior to 1934. Mint marks are on the reverse.

To check the value of your coins, you should purchase a book such as R. S. Yeoman's "A



Obverse of 1944-S Mercury dime

"Guide Book of United States Coins" or a coin periodical such as Coin World.

● Q.—Prompted by one of your columns, I sent a \$5 check to the Royal Canadian Mint for a prooflike coin set. My check was dated and mailed March 28. I have not yet received my coins, nor has my check cleared. What would you suggest I do?—D. E., Glenview.

A.—Just be patient. The employees of the Royal Canadian Mint were on strike earlier this year; consequently, there is a tremendous lag in the processing of mail.

Incidentally, the correct address to order the sets containing six uncirculated coins is: Coins Uncirculated, P. O. Box 470, Ottawa, Ont. K 1N 8S5, Canada. The cost for each set is \$5, and the order must contain full payment.